WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A material management apparatus comprising:

an estimated number in use calculating part to calculate, based on data of an operating manufacturing line, an estimated number in use of material including apparatus parts in a unit period of time;

a stock management part to manage stock of said material on data; and

an order management part to output data on an ordering number of said material based on data of said estimated number in use from said estimated number in use calculating part and data of a current stock number of said material from said stock management part.

2. The material management apparatus according to claim 1 wherein

said estimated number in use calculating part has:

a first operation part to calculate an endurance limit of said material based on data of the number of wafers processed in a unit period of time and data of the number of said material used in said unit period of time; and

a second operation part to calculate said estimated number in use based on data of the number of wafers to be processed and data of said endurance limit from said first operation part.

3. The material management apparatus according to claim 1 further comprising:

a storage part to store data of plural predetermined items about said material,

wherein said stock management part performs stock management of said

material by referring to said data stored in said storage part, and

said order management part performs order management of said material by referring to said data stored in said storage part.

4. The material management apparatus according to claim 1 further comprising:

a storage part to store data of plural predetermined items about said material,

wherein said material includes chemicals,

said storage part further stores masters having plural management items including items needed in managing said apparatus parts and items needed in managing said chemicals, and

said stock management part manages, per said material as a management object, by selecting a specific item from said plural management items.

5. The material management apparatus according to claim 3 wherein

said plural predetermined items include an item about storage place of said material.

6. The material management apparatus according to claim 3 wherein

said plural predetermined items include an item about expiration date of use of said material.

7. The material management apparatus according to claim 3 wherein

said plural predetermined items include an item about expiration date of use of said material currently used within a processing apparatus.

8. The material management apparatus according to claim 3 wherein

said plural predetermined items include an item indicating whether said material is currently a management object or not.

9. The material management apparatus according to claim 8 further comprising:

a display part to separately display, on different screens, a stock management data of said material that is currently a management object and a stock management data of said material that is currently not a management object.

10. The material management apparatus according to claim 3 wherein

said plural predetermined items include an item indicating whether or not said material is a material usable by repetitive reproduction.

11. The material management apparatus according to claim 10 further comprising:

a display part to separately display, on different screens, an order data of said material to be purchased and an order data of said material to be reproduced.

12. The material management apparatus according to claim 1 wherein

said order management part outputs data of said ordering number of said material based on data of said estimated number in use, data of said current stock number, and an upper limit value of an ordering number that is defined by a predetermined expression.

13. The material management apparatus according to claim 12 wherein

said upper limit value of said ordering number is defined by said predetermined expression using a delivery time of said material as a parameter.

14. The material management apparatus according to claim 12 wherein

when said material is a material having a quality assurance period, said upper limit value of said ordering number is defined by said predetermined expression using, as a parameter, a delivery time and said quality assurance period of said material.

15. The material management apparatus according to claim 1 wherein

said order management part determines an order time of said material based on a predetermined expression using, as a parameter, an actual number used of said material in a unit period of time, a delivery time of said material, and said current stock number of said material.

16. The material management apparatus according to claim 1 wherein

said order management part outputs data of an ordering number of said material by converting the unit of said material adopted within said material management apparatus, into the unit of said material adopted by a manufacturer to which said material is ordered.

17. A material management method comprising the steps of:

(a) calculating an estimated number in use of material including apparatus parts in a unit period of time, based on data of an operating manufacturing line;

(b) finding a current stock number of said material; and

(c) determining an ordering number of said material based on data of said

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estimated number in use and data of said current stock number.

18. The material management method according to claim 17 wherein said step (a) has the steps of:

(a-1) calculating an endurance limit of said material based on data of the number of wafers processed in a unit period of time and data of the number of said material used in said unit period of time; and

(a-2) calculating said estimated number in use, based on data of a number of wafers to be processed and data of said endurance limit.

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